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Security Council

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Letter dated 5 October 2001 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to convey the attached letter, dated 5 October 2001, from the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

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Annex

Letter dated 5 October 2001 from the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency to the Secretary-General

I would be grateful if you could arrange to transmit the attached letter to the President of the Security Council (see enclosure).

(*Signed*) Mohamed **ElBaradei**

Enclosure

Letter dated 5 October 2001 from the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency to the President of the Security Council

In accordance with paragraph 16 of Security Council resolution 1051 (1996), the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is requested to submit consolidated progress reports every six months to the Council, commencing 11 April 1996,[a] on the Agency verification activities in Iraq pursuant to paragraphs 12 and 13 of Council resolution 687 (1991) and other related resolutions.

For nearly three years, the Agency has not been in a position to implement its mandate in Iraq under Security Council resolution 687 (1991) and related resolutions. As a consequence, it is not able at present to provide any assurance that Iraq is in compliance with its obligations under these resolutions. Clearly, the longer the suspension of resolution related inspections lasts, the more difficult it will be and the more time will be required for the Agency to re-establish a level of knowledge comparable with that achieved at the end of 1998.

As requested by paragraph 8 of Security Council resolution 1284 (1999), after consultation with technical experts from the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) and from Member States, the Agency has revised the nuclear-related list of items and technology to which the export/import mechanism approved by Council resolution 1051 (1996) applies. That list has been operative since 1 September 2001.[b] I should note that this document also constitutes annex 3 to the Agency's ongoing monitoring and verification (OMV) plan approved by Council resolution 715 (1991), and lists those nuclear and nuclear-related items that are prohibited to Iraq or are subject to certain controls, including reporting by Iraq of their location and use. Such reporting is one of the components of the semi-annual declarations that Iraq is required to provide, according to paragraph 22 and annex 2 of the Agency's OMV plan, the last of which Iraq provided in July 1998.

During the period covered by the present report, the Agency has continued to expand and refine the structure and content of its information system, in the areas of computer support and analytical tools. Advances in commercially available satellite imagery have led to its integration in the Agency's Iraq-related information system. The Agency is planning to increase its data-collection and analytical effort in this area, in cooperation with UNMOVIC. Progress is also being made in the design of certain components of the wide-area environmental monitoring tools to be implemented in the field.

Enhanced analysis of the available original Iraqi documentation and the accumulated results of the past inspection process, as well as other available information, has also continued. This analysis is aimed at supporting and strengthening the preparation of the work plan requested by paragraph 7 of Security Council resolution 1284 (1999). It has permitted the Agency to refine its technically coherent picture of Iraq's past clandestine nuclear programme and nuclear-related capabilities as of December 1998, but has not changed that picture. As stated in earlier reports, there remain a few questions and concerns regarding Iraq's past nuclear programme, the clarification of which would reduce the uncertainty in the completeness of the Agency's knowledge and understanding of that programme.

Provided that the Agency could satisfy itself that Iraq's past and present nuclear activities have not changed since December 1998, the uncertainties resulting from these questions and concerns would not prevent the Agency from moving to the full implementation of its OMV plan.

IAEA has maintained its readiness to resume verification and monitoring activities in Iraq pursuant to Security Council resolutions. The Agency has kept the core staff of its Iraq Action Team and is prepared to resume these activities at short notice, with the assistance and cooperation of UNMOVIC.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the present letter to be distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohamed **ElBaradei**

Notes

[a] The previous consolidated reports of the Director General of IAEA were circulated as document S/1996/261 of 11 April 1996, as document S/1996/833 of 7 October 1996, as document S/1997/297 of 11 April 1997, as document S/1997/779 of 8 October 1997, as document S/1998/312 of 9 April 1998, as document S/1998/927 of 7 October 1998, as document S/1999/393 of 7 April 1999, as document S/1999/1035 of 7 October 1999, as document S/2000/300 of 11 April 2000, as document S/2000/983 of 11 October 2000 and as document S/2001/337 of 6 April 2001. Document S/1998/694, dated 27 July 1998, contained the text of an interim status report provided in response to the Security Council presidential statement (S/PRST/1998/11) dated 14 May 1998. Document S/1999/127, dated 9 February 1999, contained the text of an interim status report provided in response to the note by the President of the Security Council (S/1999/100) dated 30 January 1999.

[b] Letters relevant to the annex 3 revision and effective date are S/2001/561 of 5 June 2001 and S/2001/818 of 24 August 2001.